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NOTES AND NEWS.

THE SOCIETY is now established in its permanent home at No. 15 West Eighty-first Street, and the accompanying plans show the disposition of space on the five floors of the building. Especial care has been taken to provide for ventilation and the admission of light, and it is hoped that the rooms will be found commodious and comfortable in every respect.

The removal of the books and maps and other collections from the Society's former house has been successfully accomplished, and the rearrangement of the Library and Map-room is proceeding with regularity.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Society will be held at Mendelssohn Hall, No. 119 West Fortieth Street, on the 21st of January, 1902, at 8.30 o'clock P.M.

After the presentation of reports, the election of Fellows and other business, Mr. Alden Sampson will address the Society on his visit to Palmyra.

On the 18th of February, Prof. Richard E. Dodge will read a paper on Life Conditions in a Desert, with especial reference to the South-Western United States.

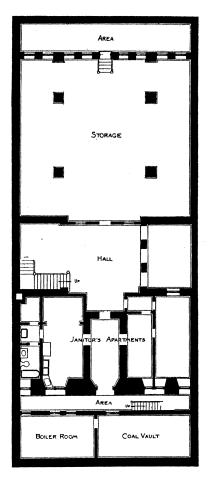
On the 18th of March, M. Hugues Le Roux will describe (in French) his visit to the Emperor Menelik.

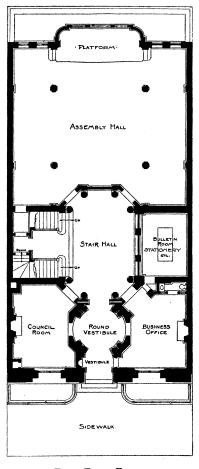
It has been decided that the yearly bound volume of the Bulletins, hitherto issued under the title of *The Journal*, shall hereafter bear the name of The Bulletin.

This change of title will not affect the numbering, and the volume for 1901 will take its place in the series as the BULLETIN, Vol. XXXIII. The Index to this volume will be issued with the first number for 1902.

THE THIRTEENTH SESSION of the International Congress of Americanists will be held October 20-25,1902, in the halls of the American Museum of Natural History in this city.

Those interested in the archæology, ethnology, and early history of the two Americas may become Members of the Congress by signifying their desire to Mr. M. H. Saville, General Secretary of the Commission of Organization (at the Museum), and remitting through him, or to the Treasurer direct, the sum of three dollars.





BASEMENT PLAN.

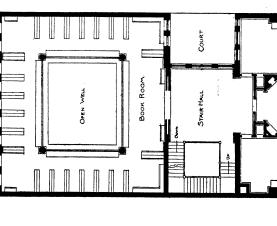
FIRST FLOOR PLAN.

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STUDY

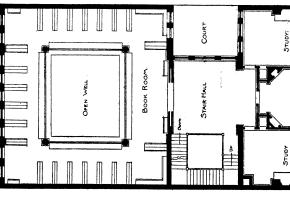
STUDY

SECOND FLOOR PLAN.



REFERENCE ROOM

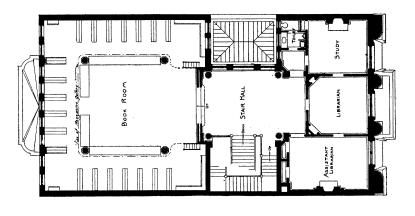
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MAP ROOM

COURT

STAIR HALL



Congratulations and best wishes for continued prosperity are due to the East Siberian Section of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society, which celebrated at Irkutsk, on the 17/30 of November, the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation.

JUSTUS PERTHES is now bringing out the ninth edition of Stieler's Hand-Atlas in *lieferungen*, each containing two maps, at intervals of from two to three weeks, at the reduced price of 30 marks (7.50) for the complete atlas of 100 maps.

A full alphabetical index of names will be be for sale, at a moderate price, after the publication of the last *lieferung*.

PROF. EMILE CHAIX, of Geneva, sends a copy of the Notice sur les Travaux de Paul Chaix, contributed to Le Globe, Tome LX.

The list of Prof. Paul Chaix's principal publications fills eight pages of the *Notice*, which contains also an account, written by him, of the Vaudois valleys of Piedmont, with a hitherto unpublished map, drawn in 1854. Of this the author says:

I have inscribed in my map the names of 495 towns, villages, and hamlets, of 15 large valleys, of 140 mountains and passes, of 121 streams and brooks, and I have marked, in columns at the sides, the elevation of 119 points, 87 of which are from my own observations. In spite of this show of figures, I cannot hide from myself the fact that the map is still incomplete; but I thought it better to leave blanks to be filled than too many mistakes to be corrected.

M. Emile Chaix's remarks on his father's life and character win the respect and sympathy of his readers.

M. PAUL CHAPPELLIER is the author of a communication to the Congrès des Langues Vivantes at the Paris Exposition of 1900 on the subject of the Universal Language; or, as he prefers to call it, the International Language. He will have nothing to do with Volapük or Esperanto, or any other artificial tongue. sition is that French or German (whichever is chosen) be made obligatory in the schools of the English-speaking nations, and English obligatory in the schools of France and Germany. This would make the people of these nations familiar with two of the most widely-known languages, and the obvious advantage of ready communication with these nations would lead the people of other countries to adopt one, at least, of the chosen tongues, and the International Language would be established. In no short time, of course; M. Chappellier recognises the fact, and admits the difficulties in the way of an international agreement upon such a subject. He cites, however, the instances of the Universal Postal

Union, the Geneva Cross, and the neutrality of sub-marine cables to show that agreement is not impossible; and he foresees the adoption of the metric system by England and the acceptance of the Greenwich meridian by France.

The cases are hardly analogous. Governments agree that a letter shall be carried for five cents, and the thing is done. Study is a different matter. The teacher may be required by law to give instruction in a language; it does not follow that the scholars will learn what is taught.

The International Language may be added to the number of visionary schemes for the improvement of the world.

THE U. S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES, at a meeting held December 4, 1901, made the following decisions:

BOWLEMS; creek and mountain, Yancey Co., N. C.

(Not Bolens.)

CASCADE SPRINGS; post village, Fall River Co., S. Dak.

(Not Cascade.)

CHIKASANOXEE; creek, tributary to Tallapoosa river, Chambers Co., Ala.

(Not Chickasonoxie, etc.)

Cоноваріан; creek, tributary to the Little Tallapoosa, Cleburne and Randolph counties, Ala.

(Not Cohabadia nor Hobadijah.)

CUTNOSE; creek, tributary to the Little Tallapoosa, Randolph Co., Ala.

(Not Cutnoe nor Cut Nose.)

GILLESPIE; creek, Ohio Co., W. Va.

(Not Gillaspies, Glasby nor Glyspie.)

La Purisima Concepcion; land grant, Santa Clara Co., Cal.

(Not La Purissima Concepcion.)

New Windsor; village, P.O. and R.R. station, Weld Co., Col. (Not Windsor.)

PALOMAR; mountain, in northern part of San Diego Co., Cal. (Not Smith.)

PIT; river, tributary to the Sacramento river in northern California.

(Not Pitt.)

Note: This name, applied as early as 1850, is thus explained in Pacific Railroad Report, Vol. VI, p. 64:

"We passed many pits about six feet deep, and lightly covered with twigs and grass. The river derives its name from these pits, which are dug by the Indians to entrap game. On this account Lt. Williamson always spelled the name with a single t."

PLUM; creek, tributary to Cheyenne river, Fall River Co., S. Dak. (Not Plumb.)

ROBINS; creek and marsh, Chincoteague bay, Worcester Co., Md. (Not Robbins, Robin's nor Robin.)

NOTE: This is a reversal of the decision Robin made in May, 1901.

ROBINS; point, the end of Gunpowder neck, Harford Co., Md. (Not Robbins nor Robin.)

STANSBURY; creek, branch of Middle river, Baltimore Co., Md. (Not Stansberry.)

STANSBURY; point, Back river, Baltimore Co., Md. (Not Stansberry.)

VAILSGATE; P.O. and R.R. station, Orange Co., N. Y.
(Not Vailgate nor Vail's Tollgate).

Welsh; P.O. and R.R. station, Chambers Co., Ala. (Not Welch).